

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Integrated multispot satellite communication system in a multimedia broadcasting network with a return channel, comprising:

a satellite that receives a multimedia broadcast signal from a provider and transmits said multimedia broadcast signal to a user in response to a request from said user;

common means of burst synchronisation such that the transmission rate in a downlink direction from the satellite is a whole multiple of a clock reference of said network; and

a network controller that receives different return channels from said user and said provider, via said satellite, wherein a signalling part of said multimedia broadcast signal is addressed from said provider to said network controller, wherein different uplink channels from a service provider and a user are inserted into a downlink signal in a synchronous manner, such that a period of the downlink frame is equal to a period of the uplink frame.

2. (previously presented): The system according to claim 1, wherein said satellite is configured to generate said network clock reference.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, further comprising a multiplexer.

4. (currently amended): The system according to claim 3, characterised in that said multiplexer inserts in ~~a~~the synchronous manner the different uplink channels from the service provider and the user into ~~a~~the downlink signal.

5. (currently amended): Method of burst synchronisation in an integrated multispot satellite communication system in a multimedia broadcasting network with return channel, comprising:

a network controller receiving different return channels from a user and a provider, via a satellite, wherein a signalling part of a multimedia broadcast signal from said provider to said user, in response to a user request, is addressed from said provider to said network controller,

wherein said synchronisation is common for a multimedia services provider and a user, in such a manner that the transmission rate in a downlink direction is a whole multiple of a network clock reference, wherein different uplink channels are inserted into a downlink signal in a synchronous manner, such that a period of the downlink frame is equal to a period of the uplink frame.

6. (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, comprising generating said network clock reference in said satellite of said system.

7. (previously presented): The method of claim 5, wherein said satellite uses a multiplexer to perform said synchronization.

8. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein said multiplexer synchronously fits the different uplink channels into ~~a~~the downlink signal.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said system is configured to communicate in accordance with digital video broadcasting-return channel system (DVB-RCS).

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein method comprises communicating in accordance with digital video broadcasting-return channel system (DVB-RCS).

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said downlink direction transmission rate is one of 54 Mbit/s, 81 Mbit/s and 108 Mbit/s.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said downlink direction transmission rate is one of 54 Mbit/s, 81 Mbit/s and 108 Mbit/s.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein a bandwidth of a transmitter onboard said satellite is a multiple of 27 MHz.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a transmitter onboard said satellite operates at a bandwidth that is a multiple of 27 MHz.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a regenerator, positioned on said satellite, that performs multiplexing and at least one of cross-connecting and broadcasting channels to different coverage zones, wherein said network controller performs control operations and verifies at least one of an identity and a profile of said user.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising performing multiplexing and at least one of cross-connecting and broadcasting channels to different coverage zones, by a regenerator positioned on said satellite, wherein said network controller performs control operations and verifies at least one of an identity and a profile of said user.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said request from said user comprises a request for video on demand service.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said request comprises a request for video on demand service.